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## THE BROOKE FAMILY.

By Prof. ST. GEORGE TUCKER BROOKE, Morgantown, W. Va.

(CONTINUED.)

RICHARD BROOKE, OF "SMITHFIELD," VA. (a)

b. 1732, d. 1792.

"My father was youngest son of my grandfather, who came to this country with a Mr. Beverley, at the time Gov. Spotswood came about 1715; he became the Surveyor of the State, and was with the Governor when he first crossed the Blue Ridge, for which he received from the Executive a medal, a gold horse-shoe set with garnets, and worn as a brooch, and I have seen in the possession of Edmund Brooke, who belonged to the oldest branch of the family. My father's name was Richard Brooke. He left four sons and a daughter by my mother, and a fifth son by his second wife; he died aged sixty of gout in the stomach, in the year 1792. He was a handsome man, as may be seen by his picture which I have; great vivacity of spirits; he read much; had a good library of books of that age.

"My father had an excellent family library. I was fond of reading history—read Hume's History of England, Robertson's History of Charles V, some of British poets (Shakespeare, Dryden, Pope, etc.,) and most of the literature of Queen Anne's reign and even Blackstone's Commentaries before I had determined to study law.

"The Smithfield family at that time (b) consisted of a kind and excellent father; an amiable mother-in-law (c) who had one son, William, (d) who, when he became to man's estate, studied law, was successful in his practice, died young, and left an amiable family—my whole brothers,

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(a) Smithfield, on the Rappahannock, four miles below Fredericksburg, was not named in honor of John Smith, who was never so far up the river. Judge Brooke thinks that Smithfield was called after a Capt. Laurence Smith, who, in 1679, had "had a commission to defend the frontier against the Indians in that region. The estate was bought by my grandfather (Francis Taliaferro), who then resided at Epsom, the adjoining estate, and gave it to my mother." (This corrects this Magazine, July, 1904, p. 105, as to the location of Epsom.) "The estate now belongs to Mr. Thomas Pratt; the old house in which I was born is burnt down, and he has built a new one, not so large, and higher up the river."—*A Narrative of My Life*.

(b) August, 1783.

(c) He means step-mother. She was the daughter of William Taliaferro and first cousin of Judge Brooke's mother. This Magazine, July, 1904, p. 107.

(d) This William Brooke married Eleanor, daughter of Col. Larkin Smith and Mary Eleanor Hill, of "Rickahock," King and Queen. This Magazine, January, 1905, p. 321. William Brooke became the executor of the will of his father-in-law. The following resolutions by the Virginia State Society of the Cincinnati, pp. 90, 117, explain themselves: *Resolved*, That if Mr. William Brooke, executor of Colonel Larkin Smith, comply with the proposal he has submitted to this Board for se-

Dr. Laurence Brooke,<sup>(e)</sup> and Robert Brooke,<sup>(f)</sup> and my twin brother John <sup>(g)</sup>.

"My only sister married Fontaine Maury,<sup>(h)</sup> though she had been courted by Capt. William Washington, afterwards Gen. William Washington; Major Churchill Jones, of Washington's regiment, and several others. Fontaine Maury was the youngest son of Fontaine Maury, the Huguenot, who came to this country after the repeal of the Edict of Nantes.

"Dr. Brooke, who had studied medicine at Edinburgh, as I have before stated, had now commenced the practice of physic. My brother Robert, who had also been educated at Edinburgh, where he studied law under Professor Miller, had resumed the study and preparing to commence the practice of law when <sup>(b)</sup> I arrived."

With reference to Judge Brooke's statement that his grandfather came to this country with Governor Spotswood, see Samuel Thacker's will, Virginia Magazine, July, 1910, p. 329. It will be observed that Judge Brooke omits to mention the Christian name of his grandfather, and both the Christian and maiden name (patronymic) of his paternal grandmother. Probably both names of his paternal grandmother will never be known. But Judge Brooke describes his grandfather as a knight of the Golden Shoe, and that he was the Surveyor of the State. The Virginia Council Journals, 26th day of October, 1738, show that "Maj'r

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curing the payment of the Debt due from his Testator, the standing Committee authorize Francis T. Brooke to release to him the Deed of Trust given by the said Col. Larkin Smith.

A resolution, dated Richmond, December 9, 1816, signed John Cropper, President (of Society of the Cincinnati), Ro. Quarles, Secretary, giving notice that if debtors do not pay the arrearages of interest suit "will be immediately instituted against them." A copy of the resolution was sent to "William Brooke."

<sup>(e)</sup> Dr. Laurence Brooke married Frances Thornton, born 1762. *William and Mary Quarterly*, January, 1902.

<sup>(f)</sup> Robert Brooke married Mary, sister of Thomas Ritchie and widow of William Hopper.

<sup>(g)</sup> John Talliaferro Brooke married Anne Mercer Selden, daughter of Samuel Selden, of "Salvington," Stafford county, Va., who was a son of Joseph Selden and his wife Mary Cary, born 1704, died 1775, daughter of Col. Miles Cary. The wife of Samuel Selden was a daughter of John Mercer, of Marlboro', by his first wife, Catherine Mason, aunt of George Mason, of Gunston Hall. It seems certain that Joseph Selden named his plantation "Salvington" in honor of the country home of the celebrated John Selden. It is on the south side of the Potomac creek, in the angle formed by the junction of the creek and Potomac river. Marlboro' was just across, on the other side of the creek.

<sup>(h)</sup> Elizabeth ("Betty") Brooke and her husband were grandparents of the late Gen. Dabney Herndon Maury.

Francis Talliaferro Brooke married, 1st, "Mary Randolph Spotswood, daughter of General Spotswood and Mrs. Spotswood, the only whole niece of General Washington," and, 2nd, Mary Champe Carter; her sister, Nancy, married Governor Troup, of Georgia.

Robert Brooke," (the "Jr." was dropped because his father, Robert Brooke, Sr., had died about 1718), the Surveyor, was Judge Brooke's grandfather. In this Magazine, July, 1906, p. 121, in a foot-note on that page the editor of this Magazine says: "Robert Brooke, a noted surveyor, probably surveyed and mapped most of the very early land grants in the Valley of Virginia. He was a member of a family since greatly distinguished in the service of the State of Virginia and in the United States." Dr. William A. Caruthers in his novel, "The Knights of the Horseshoe," gives a list of the gentlemen who accompanied Governor Spotswood, and names one as Francis Brooke, in whose honor was named "Camp Brooke," at the top of the Blue Ridge. Dr. Caruthers evidently *guessed* the Christian name of the Brooke who certainly accompanied Governor Spotswood.

Messrs. Ro. Brooke and James Tutt to Gov. Henry, July 1, 1785, Fredericksburg. Enclosing account against the State for building a Magazine and Gun Factory, by contract with Col. Fielding Lewis, in November, 1776. Cal. State Papers, 1785, p. 39. This Ro. Brooke was Robert Brooke III, the uncle of Robert Brooke who was Governor of Virginia, 1794.

In the House of Delegates, 3rd December, 1788. Petition of Richard Brooke, praying to be paid balance due him for a piece of Land taken from him in the year 1775 by commissioners of Gun Factory at Fredericksburg for public uses, &c. *Ibid*, p. 524.

In 1727, Robert Brooke, Jr., and 5 others petitioned the Governor in Council for 50,000 acres of land on the head branches of James River to the West and Northwestward of Cow Pasture. This tract lay beyond the present counties of Highland and Bath. Whether the grant was made or not seems unknown. *Wayland's German Element of Shenandoah Valley*, pp. 32, 33, 34. This Magazine, July, 1907, p. 104.

Descendants of Elizabeth (Brooke) Maury, the only daughter of Richard Brooke, of Smithfield:

She m. Fontaine Maury, November 18, 1785. She d. August 22, 1800. They had several children, but two married, viz: (A) Eliza Maury, b. August 26, 1793, m. April 3, 1817, her first cousin, Capt. John Minor Maury, U. S. N. She d. 1824. They had two children: a. William Lewis Maury, b. May 4, 1818, d. 1838; b. Gen. Dabney Herndon Maury, b. May 21, 1822, m. Nannie Mason, dau. W. R. Mason. They had three children, Rose, m. Mr. Pollard; Susan, m. Mr. Halsey; Dabney Herndon Maury m. Miss McCaw. (B) Richard Brooke Maury, b. January 22, 1794, m. 1st, May 13, 1824, Lucy Hunton, of Lancaster county; issue: a. Sallie Fontaine Maury, m. Charles Maury (issue, William, Lucy Hunton, John M.) b. John Minor Maury, d. s. (B) Richard Brooke Maury, m. 2nd, Ellen Magruder; issue: Dr. Richard, Rev. Magruder and Rev. Thompson Brooke Maury.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)